TL6600-13

CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR
fourth floor, 232 Castlereagh St.,Sydney NSW-2000 Phone :617089 February 1

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PRESS RELEASE

FRETILIN RADIO GIVES NEW INFORMATION ON
MURDER OF AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISTS

Mr Alarico Fernandes, Minister for Information and National Security in the Democratic Republic of East Timor, in broadcasts over Radio Maubere, National Radio of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, on January 28 and 30, reaffirmed that the five Australian journalists killed at Balibo in October 1975 "have died , assassinated by Indonesian regular troops in East Timor."

Mr Fernandes continued " I myself on 7th of December of 1975 about 8am asked to the glorious Minister for Internal Affairs and National Security (to) comrade Carmo to pick him up comrade Roger East, and take him to security,but unfortunately comrade Carmo has been assassinated on his way by Indonesian troops. Comrade Roger East, Australian journalist (was) arrested (and) executed the following day together with three glorious Fretilin Central Committee members.... They will never be forgotten by Maubere people,and their deaths will light a fire in the history of the people of East Timor... Australian journalists executed by Indonesian troops will be readily remembered by Maubere people... I want to inform the world that Indonesian troops are still carrying our the most brutal atrocities over the people of East Timor, particularly over the defenceless captured population."

On January 30, Mr Fernandes repeated statements on the journalists' murder by Indonesian soldiers. He also appealed to Prime Minister Fraser in the following terms : "We want to remember you sympathetic listeners that one day Mr Fraser has told Jakarta that the important thing now is to look for the future of the people of East Timor and to alleviate as much as possible human suffering.

"Well, in this way we ask to Mr Fraser to be competent with his report, to reconsider his order and let the Australian Telecommunications in the Northern Territory , Darwin, to distribute Fretilin radio messages.To recosnider that and to let Australian Telecommunications to distribute Fretilin radio messages will be correct and a consequent and competent position.Otherwise the world and we will be sure the Australian Government ..."

(Mr Fernandes comments arise from widespread publicity in Australia to statements made by East Timorese refugees now in Lisbon, given to former Australian Consul to Dili, Mr Jim Dunn and to Labor MHR Gordon Bryant during a visit last month, detailing the way the five Australian journalists in Balibo died : the brother of one of the refugees said he entered the house where one journalist lay wounded,speaking into a tape recording, beside the bodies of the four other journalists. The refugee said his brother was ordered aside by an Indonesian soldier who then shot the journalist. Another refugee said he had seen Roger East's passport on the desk of an Indonesian officer ,who told him East had been shot by Indonesian troops. Mr Fernandes recalled on Janaury 30 Radio Maubere that Chico da Cruz (Lopez da Cruz,ex-UDT leader) had said over Radio Kupang after the death of the journalists that they had been shot as "communists". Mr Dunn said he had also been told by a refugee that he had seen a photo of the journalists, dead, but propped up behind a machine gun, in a plan to discredit them. Mr Dunn and Mr Bryant also brought back accounts for the government of massacres of Timorese civilians. Mr Bryant called on the government to ask the United Nations to set up an international inquiry on Indonesian atrocities in East Timor. The CIET is discussing with other groups an East Timor War Crimes Tribunal,if the government takes no action -- as it has refused to do in the past).

CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR
fourth floor, 232 Castlereagh St., Sydney NSW-2000 Phone: 617089 February 1,1977

PRESS RELEASE

FRETILIN " SPECIAL UNITS" BEGIN ATTACKS
IN CENTRES OF VILLAGES AND TOWNS CONTROLLED
BY INDONESIAN INVADERS

Radio Maubere broadcasts on January 28 and 30 indicate that Fretilin armed forces (FALINTIL) have formed "special units" whose main task is to make lightning raids into the centre of villages and towns controlled by the Indonesian invading forces.

Radio Maubere (January 28) reported that on January 19, "the glorious Falintil special units have killed three Indonesian soldiers in Lautem customs house". It also reported that "on January 20, in Bazartete village, Fretilin forces in special units have killed five Indonesian soldiers.Fretilin didn't suffer any casualties." In Venilale village on January 21 "the glorious Falintil in special units have killed one Indonesian soldier. Fretilin didn't suffer any casualties."

Other news from Radio Maubere January 28 (RM 28/1) ,Radio Maubere January 30 (RM 30/1) and public receiver message January 27 (PR 27/1) :

Venilale: Jan 15: enemy shelled villages of Bakaturi (?) and (???) with mortar fire but caused no damage (RM 28/1 and PR 27/1) One female comrade escaped from Indonesian concentration camp there and reported captured population starving and suffering most brutal treatment --forced to work hard labour.(RM 28/1 and PR 27/1) Jan 28 : enemy ambushed,lot killed (RM 30/1)

UATOCARRABAU: Jan 20 -- enemy 20 kms. from new colonial residence ,which they bombed with heavy mortar fire but caused no damage. Jan 21: one enemy spy eliminated. Jan 22 : mortar shelling continues. Jan 22: fierce fighting and Fretilin killed 26 Indonesian soldiers. At night on that day ,a further 4 enemy killed. Jan 23: enemy supported by two tanks and two armoured cars advanced over old colonial residence and took that position. At Ualito on Jan 23, two enemy killed. Enemy impotent and shelling and firing into air. (RM 28/1) Jan 23: 27 enemy killed and Fretilin destroyed two Indonesian (???) Fretilin suffered no casualties (PR 27/1)

SUELICAI: enemy has withdrawn from vicinity of village to (???) (PR 27/1)

LAGA: Enemy withdrawn from all areas around village back to village ,where they are terrorising the local population (PR 27/1) Jan 23 : one enemy warship attempted to land troops between Laga and (Seical ??) (RM 30/1)

BAUCAU: Fretilin controls localities around town,enemy in town only. Enemy has suffered high casualties ... 12 Indonesians killed (date inaudible) (PR 27/1) Jan 13: three Fretilin guerrillas ambushed a convoy, destroying one heavy truck and killing 4 (or 49?) enemy and wounding 21. Fretilin guerrillas no injured (RM 30/1)

ERMERA: at VONILABAR (??) from Jan 22-23 ,six enemy killed many wounded.No Fretilin casualties. Fretilin and peoples morale high. (RM 30/1)

LOSPALOS: Jan 8 : 1 enemy killed. Jan 12: in Laulia ,one enemy killed. Jan 20: about 6am enemy invaded over Ehara (Mehara ?) locality.Fierce fighting and 21 enemy killed and many wounded. Enemy strongly shelled area. At 5pm, enemy completely impotent retired to Lospalos village. Jan 24: one enemy killed,when try to steal cattle. No Fretilin casualties (RM 28/1 , PR 27/1)
SUAI: Enemy shelling Covalima from other side of border (PR 27/1)
BAGUIA: Jan 27: two jet fighters bombed area. One civilian dead and two wounded.(RM 30/1)
BOBONARO: Jan 25 : two enemy killed,many wounded. Lot of ammunition captured (RM 30/1)

LET EAST TIMOR SPEAK FUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 27, 1977

FOURTH FLOOR
232 Castlereagh St.,
Sydney-NSW-2000
PHONE: 617089

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RECEIPTS	$
SYDNEY	477.50
ACT	137.00
VICTORIA	130.00
BRISBANE	99.00
WEST AUST.	88.80
NEWCASTLE	72.00
NSW STH.COAST	31.20
SOUTH AUST.	29.00
ROCKHAMPTON	10.00
REFUND NATION REVIEW AD.	56.80
TOTAL	1131.30

EXPENDITURE	$
NATION REVIEW AD.	492.80
RADIO RECEIVER	280.00
TAPES FOR RECORDING	100.00
AIR FREIGHT OF RADIO AND AUXILIARY GEAR TO DARWIN	49.55
FREIGHT COLLECT ,MELB.	
AD. SIGNATURES	4.00
PHONE CALLS INTERSTATE	194.60
TOTAL	1120.95
BALANCE	$ 10.35

NOTES: We have included in different State and city totals donations that came in independently through advertisements placed in newspapers.

It should be noted that Victoria AETA and South Australia CIET placed ads. in their city newspapers separate from the Nation Review ad., and this expenditure is not accounted for in the above financial statement. The ACT total includes money sent by CIET and also money sent by Ian McDonald from Parliament House including donations from Senators who signed the Statement of Defiance.

The high phone bill covers costs of interstate calls to finalise the ad. and also calls to Darwin to finalise establishment of the radio receiver.

CURRENT SITUATION

The radio receiver has been operating successfully in Darwin since its establishment last month. However, difficulties persist for the following reasons:

1) East Timor is sending messages at a bad time of the day for receiving them due to atmospheric conditions.
2) The location of the radio receiver in the Miscellaneous Workers Union office, in the centre of Darwin, while desirable for both publicity and security purposes, and for easy access, also hinders reception because of interference from electrical appliances in the city .(Best reception ever was when there was a power strike in Darwin !)
3) Because all East Timor activists have fulltime jobs, there are sometimes difficulties in being at the receiver when messages are sent.

For these reasons, we propose that the LET EAST TIMOR SPEAK FUND must subsidise the upkeep of one member of the East Timor support groups in Darwin, so that the receiver can be permanently situated in a good area for reception, and that one person have responsibility for staffing the receiver. Such a person would also have responsibility for co-ordinating Radio Maubere reception, transcription and despatch of tapes. We propose that he/she be paid up to $40 a week in expenses. THIS IMPOSES FURTHER COSTS ON THE FUND, WHICH AS YOU CAN SEE , HAS NOT THE FINANCES TO DO THIS. PLEASE MAKE FURTHER APPEALS FOR FINANCE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORTERS.

Denis Freney, Sydney, January 28, 1977

CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR
fourth floor, 232 Castlereagh St.,Sydney NSW -2000 Phone :617089 February 3,1977

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TO ALL CIETs, AETAs and FOET , AND TO ALL OVERSEAS EAST TIMOR GROUPS

TOWARDS AND EAST TIMOR WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL ?

The new exposures of Indonesian war crimes in East Timor, following the visit to Lisbon by Mr Jim Dunn and Mr Gordon Bryant MHR , has once more raised in many people's minds the need for an East Timor War Crimes Tribunal to investigate claims and specific examples of war crimes, and to make a report on their invastigations.

Mr Dunn and Mr Bryant urged a Government inquiry, while Mr Bryant urged the Australian Government to initiate in the United Nations moves for an international investigation. CIET proposed an official Government public inquiry with terms of reference to take in all atrocities committed.

However it is clear that, at best, the Australian Government will initiate a Departmental ,closed inquiry, with the most likely result a legalistic whitewash of the Indonesian regime,similar to past such inquiries.

However, that does not mean we should not continue to press for an open public inquiry, or take up Mr Bryant's suggestion for a UN-sponsored inquiry.

But, given the likely outcome, the CIET meeting on February 1 proposed that all CIETs and AETAs views be sought on a proposal for an EAST TIMOR WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, regarding which the following points seem relevant :

1) Such a Tribunal should be broadly sponsored and organised outside the framework of existing CIETs and AETAs,which however could offer all possible assistance. It should be financed by public appeal. War Crimes Tribunal committees should be set up in all cities, based on the broadest possible participation.

2) Such committees should discuss the terms of reference of such a Tribunal, suggest names of prominent people (including with a legal background) to take part in the Tribunal as such (ie. be sitting on the Tribunal).

3) One Tribunal committee would have to take the main responsibility for forming a Tribunal Secretariat, which would be responsible not only for organising the Tribunal, but collating written evidence,documents etc. and for contacting likely witnesses. (We would hope Melbourne could take this responsibility,but it would have to be something for which someone took fulltime responsibility as co-ordinator,and probably receive at least some payment).

4) In Europe, a section of the Tribunal could be established, which would be formed through the Timor groups there, select a panel for the Tribunal and collect evidence ,particularly in Lisbon from the refugees there. Finances allowing, a member of this European Tribunal could come to Australia for final session.

5) Such a Tribunal should not be restricted simply to the death of the Australian journalists, but take in particularly war crimes against the civilian population. The terms of reference would have to be broad enough to take in all cases of war crimes. The findings could be reporduced,with selected documents as a book. Publicity through media,etc.. would be important.

6) The proposed public radio transmitter could be used to gather evidence directly from Fretilin in East Timor.

PLEASE DO NOT PUBLICISE THIS PROPOSAL OUTSIDE CIET and AETA MEETINGS. ANY PREMATURE PRESS PUBLICITY COULD ENDAGER BROAD SPONSORSHIP. SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS THAT COULD BE APPROACHED SHOULD ALSO BE SENT TO US. PLEASE TRY TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND FORWARD RESULTS TO US.

--Denis Freney for CIET (Sydney)

CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR
fourth floor, 232 Castlereagh St., Sydney NSW -2000
Phone: 617089
February 7, 1977

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PRESS RELEASE

INDONESIAN GENERALS PREPARE INVASION PLAN FOR PAPUA-NEW GUINEA :
SOMARE GOVERNMENT WANTS FIRM COMMITMENT FROM FRASER ON INDONESIAN THREATS

Reliable sources in Singapore, in close contact with top levels of the Indonesian military, report that Jakarta generals are preparing a "contingency plan" for the invasion of Papua-New Guinea, Mr Denis Freney, secretary of the Campaign for Independent East Timor, said in Sydney today.

" Other reliable sources in Canberra and Port Moresby report that Suharto and other generals openly threated Prime Minister Somare with military intervention during Somare's recent visit to Jakarta," Mr Freney said.

" Somare was told that Indonesia would 'not hesitate' to invade PNG if Indonesian 'security' was threatened. To enforce the point, Somare was taken on a tour of Indonesian weapons factory and given a show of Indonesian military strength. He was strongly pressured to allow Indonesian military instructors to take over key positions in the PNG military academy.

"When Somare returned, he immediately got onto a 'hot line' to Fraser, informing him of Indonesian threats and asking for a strong commitment from the Fraser Government. Fraser , our sources say, was non-commital, but agreed to visit Vanimo, on the PNG-West Irian border, to 'show the flag'.

"The Somare Government was unhappy with Australian reaction, and this was a major factor in stepping up pressure on the Torrest Straits border question.

" Government sources in Canberra, particularly in the Defence Department, are extremely concerned at Indonesian intimidation of PNG. They are concerned at government policy which is for a soft-line on Indonesia. Defence Department experts particularly consider Indonesian threats to PNG justify their strong reservations to Foreign Affairs Department policy, which they consider underestimates Indonesian military ambitions.

" The Singapore sources said that planning for the invasion of PNG was scheduled to be completed by mid-year. A decision would be taken after the PNG elections in May. If the result was judged unsatisfactory, then the contingency plan would be activated and more detailed plans prepared for an invasion towards the end of this year.

"The sources said the Jakarta generals consider PNG a much easier conquest than East Timor. Although it is a larger country, the PNG army is poorly armed and small. But above all, they believe that any invading force would face no organised guerrilla resistance, as occurred in East Timor. PNG politics is at a totally different level to East Timor, where Fretilin had been preparing the people for an invasion, including for guerrilla warfare.

"The plan would involve landings by sea and air at Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and on Bougainville. Indonesian generals estimate the conquest of these towns would be finished in a matter of hours, and forces could then move to less important areas. Resistance would be finished in a few days. They contemptuously dismissed any Australian military intervention as excluded following the sell-out of Timor. But they would take care to look after expatriates and evacuate them in a day or two after invasion, to limit pressure for military action in Australia.

Mr Freney recalled that it was reported, and never denied, in the Australian press, that PNG armed forces head, Gen. Ted Somare Doro, had been told explicitly by Indonesian generals that the military intervention would take place if there was any threat to Indonesian security.

" Indonesian generals are demanding in fact that PNG becomes a military and political satellite of Indonesia, or face an invasion," Mr Freney said.

" For the past year the Fraser Government has sold out the East Timorese people, in the interests, supposedly, of good relations with Indonesia. Now the chickens are coming home to roost. For the Indonesian generals have interpreted the government attitude to East Timor as one of weakness, which has encouraged them to think of further adventures, this time in PNG.

" It is time Australia faced up to the very real threat the Suharto regime, with its appetite whetted by East Timor, faces to PNG and even to other South Pacific nations.

"It is disturbing to read, in the Canberra Times (February 4) ,under the heading "Big Build-up by Indonesian Navy" that this build-up "could make it the most significant maritime force in South East Asia.""

"And Australian military aid will be a component of that build-up.

"We do not want to be alarmist, and we do not believe that Indonesian armed forces will have ,and certainly do not now have, the ability to invade Australia. However, small, weak countries such as PNG, are threatened, and the Fraser Government attitude is encouraging such ambitions. That we consider is a reality, which, even outside the sources we quote, are evident from what Somare and Doro were told in Jakarta, and Indonesian demands for de facto control of PNG military training.

" It is time now for a total reassessment of the Suharto regime, of Fraser Government complicity in its genocidal war in East Timor, and of the likely results if such policies are continued," Mr Freney concluded.

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CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR
fourth floor, 232 Castlereagh St., Sydney - NSW-2000 Phone: 617089 February 9

PRESS RELEASE

INDONESIAN DRIVE TO CAPTURE BAGUIA VILLAGE
UNSUCCESSFUL AFTER ONE MONTH

A major Indonesian offensive to take Baguia village, on the road south of the north coast village of LAGA, continues after over a month of ceaseless attack.

BAGUIA region is one area Indonesian troops have not penetrated in over one year of full scale war. It is on a road, but a very difficult and dangerous one.

On December 26, 1976, Indonesian troops began a big attack on the road south of Laga, on the road to Baguia, supported by two tanks. On December 27, 64 Indonesians were killed in an ambush, and many wounded.

For the following month, the battle raged, and the Indonesians suffered very heavy casualties. By January 26, Radio Maubere could report that all Indonesian forces in that drive were forced back to Laga village.

On January 20, however, the Indonesians began a drive to Baguia from the south, along the south coast road to UATOCARABOU and then north to Baguia. Supported by two tanks and two armoured cars, on January 20, they were reported 20 kms from the village. After fierce bombing on January 21, they tried to advance, but were blocked by Fretilin forces who killed 30 Indonesian soldiers and wounded many. On January 23, however, they succeeded in taking the old colonial residence in the village.

On Radio Maubere of February 6, the Indonesians were still reported in UATO CARABOU, attempting to reach Baguia, which they were shelling with mortar fire and with jet planes. On January 29, 40 Indonesian soldiers had been killed.

The attempt to take Baguia followed other Indonesian offensives in widely separated parts of the country. These offensives took place at the height of the wet season, and this fact undoubtedly helped Fretilin forces defeat them.

The Indonesian offensives into the mountains south of the north-west coastal town of Maubara ended in disaster, with them not only retreating back to Maubara, but also losing around 500 men at the LOIS RIVER. (See CIET press release, January 26,1977).

In BAUCAU, the second main town in East Timor, the Indonesians have suffered very heavy losses. Radio Maubere on January 26 reported that they were surrounded in the town, and had sent for reinforcements which were on their way by sea from Manatuto, further west along the north coast. Radio Maubere on February 6 reported that fierce fighting was continuing around Baucau.

In LOSPALOS area on the eastern tip of the island, Indonesian troops on January 20, attempted to go to Mehara (on the road to Tutuala), but after losing 21 dead and many wou wounded, they retreated back to Lospalos, On January 26, they made another attempt to go to Mehara, but also retreated after losing 62 and many wounded, according to Radio Maubere on February 6.

In another major defeat, Fretilin forces killed 130 Indonesian soldiers near the village of Bobonaro, near the border, on January 30.

INDONESIAN UN AMBASSADOR IN DILI
GETS WELCOME FROM ONLY 200

Radio Maubere on February 6 reported that UN Ambassador for Indonesia, Sani, visited Dili in early January. Despite intensive efforts by the Indonesian authorities and puppet Governor Arnaldo Araujo, only 200 Timorese turned out for a staged demonstration to welcome Sani and proclaim their "love" for Indonesia. This was only a very small proportion of the two or three thousand Timorese in Dili.

INDONESIANS ADMIT LOSING A
BRONCO OV-10 OVER EAST TIMOR

According to anMelbourne Age by correspondentH McDonald , Indonesian military spokesmen admitted that an Indonesian Bronco OV-10 ground attack plane, one of the 16 recently delivered to the Indonesian air force from the United States, crashed while in combat duties in East Timor.

The plane apparently crashed between Dili and Baucau, on the north coast. There are currently six Bronco OV-10's being used in the fighting in East Timor,The Age reported.

McDonald said that the military spokesman discounted any possibility of it being shot down by Fretilin forces. He said its crash was "probably" due to "bad weather" or "accidental factors". The crew died in the crash.

To date, we cannot report any comment by Radio Maubere on the crash of the plane. However, some broadcasts have been inaudible because of poor atmospheric conditions (Radio Maubere on February 4, while the broadcast on February 6 was very poor in some places).

However, it is worth recalling that when an Indonesian delegation cancelled a visit to Baucau last year at the last minute, it was supposedly due to "bad weather" ,although Baucau airport is of international standard. Later, it was admitted that Fretilin had attacked Baucau airport at the time the visit was due.

We cannot therefore say why the plane crashed , but neither can the Indonesians. No doubt some clarification will come from Fretilin sources shortly.

HOW FAMILIES OF INDONESIAN SOLDIERS
KILLED IN EAST TIMOR ARE NOTIFIED OF THEIR DEATH...

A recent visitor to Indonesia visited three villages in one single area of Java. At each village, the visitor inquired about, or was told about, soldiers from the villages who had gone to East Timor. The visitor met families in each village who had mysteriously found delivered to them, without explanation, a sewing machine each an 10,000 rupees (approx. $ Aust 25). They said they assumed this meant that their son or husband had been killed.

Speaking to other soldiers, the visitor was told of a common occurance : soldiers are put aboard planes and told they are going to other city in Java. Instead, they found themselves in Kupang, the capital of West Timor , and then are transported to East Timor.

Meanwhile, although the Indonesian press claims that the war is over, an Indonesian general recently in Europe told students there not to believe it, because " very many of our best young men are dying in East Timor." Suharto's righthand man,Ali Murtopo,when questioned by rightwing Indonesian students in West Germany about the death toll in East Timor, said :" soldiers die all the time.